REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 7, 8, 10-13 and 15-17 are currently active.

The amendments to Claim 1 have antecedent support in Claim 7.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings because it is unclear to the Examiner exactly what element the lead lines and arrows are pointing to. The figures have been amended, with amendments shown in red, to obviate this objection. Formal drawings will be provided when the application is allowed.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-6 and 10 as being anticipated by Crane. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection in view of the amendments to Claims 1 and 10.

Referring to Crane, there is disclosed a filter connector. Crane teaches a filter connector adapted for use in automotive environments. Crane teaches that prior art vehicular radios and other electrical automotive components include capacitors, ferrite suppressors or other such filter means incorporated into the circuitry printed on the circuit board. Although these known suppressors and filters are effective to minimize interference generated on the circuit board, they are of limited effectiveness in filtering signals in the input/output lines leading to or

extending from the circuit board. The signal lines external to the circuit board are known to generate and/or receive a very significant portion of the electrical interference. Filters mounted on portions of signal caring circuits external to a circuit board have several significant deficiencies, in particular the electrical interference filters disposed at locations external to a circuit board have been complex and relatively expensive. Additionally, these filters have not been well suited to long-term use in an automotive environment and are subject to failure in such an environment. See column 1, lines 38-58.

Crane teaches a filter connector 10 for application in environments to minimize the effect of electrical interference of the signal caring leads to or from respective components, such as the input and/or output signal lines of a radio and in an automobile, and to prevent the leads from generating electrical interference that could affect other optical components in the environment. The filter connector is well suited for use of highly vibration environments such as automotive environments and like. See column 3, lines 25-35.

Crane teaches the filter connector 10 has a plurality of terminal pins 26 which defines signal caring leads and which are connectable to a plurality of electrical contacts 28 on receptacle connector 12, with each contact being terminated to a lead wire 30. The receptacle connector 12 has a unitarily molded housing 32 provided with a plurality of thorough cavities 34 for receiving a corresponding plurality of contacts 28 for mating with terminal pins 26 of filter

connector 10. Filter connector 10 includes a ground plate 36 extending across housing 14 transversely of terminal pins 26 adjacent a row of vertically oriented openings 38. See column 3, lines 47-62.

Each terminal pin 26 is L-shape, defining a depending leg 26 a. In addition, a chip capacitor 40 and a electrically conductive spring 42 are provided for each terminal pin 26. The capacitor and the spring are assembled into housing 14 downwardly through openings 38. See column 3, lines 63-column 4, line 3.

As is clear from the above description, Crane has nothing to do with the power entry panel for a power conditioner. A power conditioner is not even mentioned or hinted at anywhere in the teachings of Crane. This follows, since Crane is concerned with a totally different purpose and device. The Examiner is clearly using hindsight from applicant's claims to find the various components of the claims, and having found them, concluding that applicant's invention is obvious to be arrived at. Applicant respectfully, strongly traverses this conclusion. Not only is this not patent law, but the Examiner is clearly ignoring the context in which these teachings are found, which is also contrary to patent law. Not only is the Examiner ignoring the limitations of applicant's claimed invention, and ignoring the context in which the teachings of Crane are found, but is also ignoring the fact that the device taught by Crane cannot possibly meet the requirements of applicant's claimed invention.

The Examiner states in the response to arguments section of the last Office Action that the recitation of the intended use of the claimed invention must result in a structural difference between the claimed invention in the prior art in order to patentably distinguish the claimed invention from the prior art. If the prior art structure is capable of performing the intended use, then it meets the claim. First, the prior art structure is not capable of performing the intended use, as explained above. It would burn out long before the intended use was ever reached. Moreover, there are structural differences between the claim, as amended in the prior art. For instanced, as amended, the filter layer is positioned about the terminal pin, not under it, as taught by Crane.

Furthermore, applicant provides a complete enabling disclosure on how the claimed invention meets the intended use. There is no teaching or suggestion of any ability or enablement by Crane of applicant's intended use. Furthermore, it is inherent in the structure of applicant's claim that it is capable of the intended use as defined by the limitation of the indented use in the claim, and thus this is inherent in the elements of the claim to be able to meet the intended use. Additionally, it is not obvious to modify the device taught by Crane because of applicant's submitted prior art, because the admitted prior art is essentially dictated by a standard. The prior art has met the standard by totally different approaches completely distinct from

applicant's claimed invention. No one skilled in the art would ever look to Crane which has nothing to do with a power conditioner or providing a specific level of power to it, to arrive at applicant's claimed invention. It would require a total redesign, and significant research and development to in any way somehow make the device taught by Crane meet the claimed invention of applicant.

The filter connector of Crane is a Molex connector. A catalog page of what appears to be Crane's pin design is enclosed for the Examiner's review. The reference Crane does not teach or suggest any actual electrical capabilities or characteristics. It is submitted by applicants that the connector taught by Crane would not operate at 150 amps of current, as found in applicants' amended Claim 1. In fact, from the catalog page, the pin connector is rated at a maximum of 7 amps of current flow. Applicants' claimed invention is designed for 150 amps of current flow (21 times that of the connector of Crane). Furthermore, in column 3, lines 20-25, Crane teaches that the intended application for the pin connector 10 is for signal caring leads for an automobile radio. Signal caring leads are generally quite low current leads. This filter connector 10 taught by Crane would be destroyed if 150 amps of current were supplied to it.

Moreover, amended Claim 1 has the limitation that "the input terminal block including at least one terminal pin and a support block through which the terminal pin extends,

the support block supporting the terminal pin and isolating the terminal pin, the input terminal block including a power filtering layer for filtering the power positioned about the terminal pin". It is respectfully submitted that Crane does not teach this limitation.

Accordingly, Claim 1 is patentable over Crane. Claims 2-4 are dependent to parent Claim 1 and are patentable for the reasons parent Claim 1 is patentable.

Claim 10 is patentable over Crane for the reasons Claim 1 is patentable over Crane.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully requested that the outstanding rejections and objections to this application be reconsidered and withdrawn, and Claims 1-4, 7, 8, 10-13 and 15-17, now in this application be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

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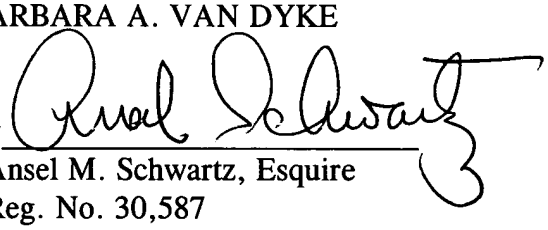
By 

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Version with markings to show changes made to the claims

1. A power entry panel for a power conditioner comprising:

an input terminal block which receives at least 150 amps of 48 V DC power, the input terminal block including at least one terminal pin and a support block through which [a] the terminal pin extends, the support block supporting the terminal pin and isolating the terminal pin, the input terminal block including a power filtering layer for filtering the power positioned about the terminal pin; and

a mating connection for passing the power from the input terminal block to the power conditioner, the mating connection directly connected and in contact with the terminal pin of the input terminal block and the power conditioner.

7. A power entry panel as described in Claim 4 wherein the terminal pin has a long end and a short end, the support block has a wire side and a connector side, [and the input terminal block includes a filtering layer for filtering the power,] the power filtering layer disposed on the connector side, the long end extending from the connector side and connecting with the mating connection, and the short end extending from the wire side and connecting with a power wire to which power is delivered to the input terminal block.

10. An input terminal block for a power entry panel comprising:

a terminal pin for conducting at least 150 amps of 48 V DC power adapted to be directly connected and in contact with a mating connection of the power entry panel;

a support block through which the terminal pin extends, the support block supporting the terminal pin; and

a filtering layer disposed on the support block for filtering power and positioned about the terminal pin.

11. A method for transferring power comprising the steps of:

receiving at least 150 amps of 48 V DC power at an input terminal block having a support block through which the terminal pin extends, the support block supporting the terminal pin and isolating the terminal pin, the input terminal block including a power filtering layer for filtering the power positioned about the terminal pin; and

passing the 150 amps of 48 V DC power from the input terminal block through a mating connection that the input terminal block is directly connected and in contact with to a power conditioner.